

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device for storing and managing an elongate flexible member having a length, a first end and a second end, the device comprising:

a container having a base, a side wall, and a first access hole;

a spool disposed within the container, the spool comprising:

a bottom, a top having a second access hole, and a

column between the top and the bottom, the

column defines a surface for wrapping the

length of flexible member around, wherein the

second end of flexible member passes through

the second access hole and wherein the first end

of flexible member passes through the first

access hole of the container;

a foot plate secured to the base of the container, the

foot plate including mounting holes which

extend through the foot plate;

a retainer coupled to the container for holding the

spool within the container; and

means for rotating the spool within the container.

2. The device of claim 1 wherein the means for rotating the spool within the container includes a turning knob coupled to the top of the spool.

3. The device of claim 1 wherein the elongate flexible member is an electrical cord and wherein the means for rotating the spool within the container comprise:

a bottom bearing member coupled to the base of the container;

a bottom bearing race coupled to the bottom bearing member, the bottom bearing race being made of an electrically conductive material;

a top bearing member coupled to the bottom of the spool;

a top bearing race coupled to the top bearing member, the top bearing race being made of an electrically conductive material;

bearing balls rotatably fitted between the bottom bearing race and the top bearing race;

a first electrical member electrically coupled to the bottom bearing race; and

a second electrical member electrically coupled to the top bearing race.

4. The device of claim 3 further including:
means for sealing between the bottom bearing member and the top bearing member.

5. The device of claim 4 wherein the means for sealing comprises a gasket between the bottom bearing member and the top bearing member.

6. The device of claim 3 wherein the first electrical member comprises an electrical plug, and wherein the second electrical member comprises an electrical outlet.

7. An electrical cord dispensing device for storing and managing an electrical cord having a length, a first end and a second end, the device comprising:

- a container having a base, a sidewall, and an access hole;
- a spool disposed within the container, the spool comprising a bottom, a top, and a column between the top and the bottom, the column defining a surface for wrapping the length of electrical cord around, wherein the first end of the electrical cord passes through the first access hole; and

- an electrical bearing unit, the bearing unit comprising:

- a top bearing member coupled to the bottom of the spool, the top bearing member having a top surface and a bottom surface;

- at least one top bearing race coupled to the bottom surface of the top bearing member, the top bearing race being electrically conductive;

- a bottom bearing member coupled to the base of the container, the bottom bearing member having a top surface and a bottom surface;

- at least one bottom bearing race coupled to the top surface of the bottom bearing member, the bottom bearing race being electrically conductive;

- bearing balls rotatably fitted between the top bearing race and the bottom bearing race, the bearing balls being made of an electrically conductive material;

a first electrical member electrically coupled to the bottom bearing race; and
a second electrical member electrically coupled to the top bearing race;
wherein the first electrical member is exposed outside of the container and wherein the second electrical member is exposed above the bottom of the spool so that the second end of the electrical cord may be electrically coupled to the second electrical member to create an electrical circuit between the first end of the electrical cord and the first electrical member.

8. The device of claim 7 further including a seal between the top bearing member and the bottom bearing member.

9. The device of claim 7 wherein the first electrical member comprises an electrical plug and wherein the second electrical member comprises an electrical outlet.

10. An electrical cord dispensing device for storing and managing an electrical cord having a length, a first end and a second end, the device comprising:

a container having a base and a side wall;
an electrical bearing unit disposed within the container, the electrical bearing unit comprising:
a first member;

an electrical outlet electrically coupled to the first member;
a second member for movement relative to the first member;
an electrical plug electrically coupled to the second member; and
means for electrically connecting the first member to the second member.

11. The device of claim 10 wherein the means for electrically connecting the first member to the second member comprises:

a top bearing race coupled to a first member, the top bearing race being electrically conductive;
a bottom bearing race coupled to the second member, the bottom bearing race being electrically conductive;
bearing balls rotatably fitted between the top bearing and the bottom bearing race, the bearing balls being made of an electrically conductive material.

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